12-13-06



Express Mail No.: EV 955981523 US

Date: 12 Dec. 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket No.: 2551-026

Douglas M. BLAIR

Appln. No.: 09/881,234

Group Art Unit: 1631

Filing Date: June 14, 2001

Examiner: Smith, C.

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING SEQUENCE DATABASE

COMPARISON

Mail Stop Non-fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find the following:

1. Response to the Office Action of November 2, 2006.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 18-1579. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-1579 for any future fees connected in any way to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher B. Kilner Registration No. 45,381

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(703) 391-2900



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Mail Stop Non-fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration based on the accompanying amendments and remarks:

Amendment to the Claims begin on page 3;

Amendment to the Drawings begin on page 9

Remarks begin on page 10.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 10 of this paper.